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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 29, 2010, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2010

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, teach us this day, through all our employments, to see You working for the good of those who love You

Deliver our lawmakers from all dejection and free their hearts to give You zealous, active, and cheerful service. May they vigorously perform whatever You command, thankfully enduring whatever You have chosen for them to experience. Guard their desires so that they will not deviate from the path of integrity. Lord, strengthen them with Your almighty arms to do Your will on Earth, even as it is done in Heaven.

We pray in Your liberating Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK R. WARNER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 19, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Daniel K. Inouye,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3975

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told that S. 3975 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 3975) to permanently extend the 2001 and 2003 tax relief provisions, and to permanently repeal the estate tax, and to provide permanent alternative minimum tax relief, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would object to any further proceedings with respect to this piece of legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will turn to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

As a reminder to my colleagues, last night we were able to reach an agreement to limit action on the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act. I filed a cloture motion with respect to the bill. The cloture vote on the substitute amendment will occur at 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 29. Senators should expect up to five additional votes Monday night so we can complete action on that bill on Monday. Basically what we have is we have the bill, and we will complete action on that, and we have a number of amendments offered by Senator COBURN. As I recall, there is only one side-by-side to the work we have done. So we should be able to complete that very important bill, which will be such a relief to the people of our country. This will be the first modernization of our food safety programs in more than 100 years—something long overdue.

There will be no rollcall votes today. We have a number of matters we are working on, trying to have cleared today, and we hope we can do that. We will have to wait and see what the outcome of the day is.

But I appreciated everyone's cooperation late yesterday. It was very difficult to work through that. We had, of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

